Meeting the Challenge of Private Sectors in Basic Telecom Services

189. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the dual role of the DoT as operator and policy maker has been widely criticised as counter productive, if so, what is Government's response to this;

(b) in what manner Government propose to meet the challenges of the private operators in basic telephone and value added services in the competitive environment;

(c) whether it is a fact that no private operator can function efficiently if DoTs exchanges and facilities are not upto the mark; and

(d) what problems Government expect due to this and how Government propose to solve them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) To meet the challenge of competition in the Telecom sector an exercise has been undertaken for distancing policy making functions from operational functions. A number of steps have also been taken which include streamlining the work at Telecom Headquarters for their speedy disposal, close monitoring of financial and physical targets formulation of elaborate strategy for upgrading the skill of the employees like setting up and strengthening of the existing training infrastructure with latest technology equipment, evolving appropriate training methodology for training in High-tech field for each group of personnel, deputing personnel for training to institutions in developed countries to acquire knowledge and expertise and modernisation of telecom operations. The DoT network particularly the long distance trunk network is being modernised by induction of state of the art switching and transmission systems. All trunk automatic exchanges at the highest level of the network hierarchy are being replaced by new technology switching systems which are capable of the most modern digital signalling techniques. Some of these new technology TAXs have been used for interworking with the digital cellular private networks. These have worked very efficiently and handled all inter network traffic without any problem. It will, therefore, be seen that modern exchanges/facilities are in place to route the traffic of private networks without any problem.

(d) By providing the interconnect/ gateway functionalities in the new technology Trunk Automatic Exchanges/ Tandems which are capable of handling more than a million busy hour call attempts and common channel signalling.

Khan Committee Report on Privatisation of DoT

190. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 346 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29th November, 1995 and state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the recommendations of the Khan Committee to privatise Telecommunications Department;

(b) if so, the details of the decision so far taken on each of the recommendations and to what extent these have been implemented;

(c) if not the reasons therefor and by when a final decision is likely to be taken and implemented; and

(d) whether Government would lay a copy of the report of the khan' Committee on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KUKH RAM): (a) to (d) As per the terms of reference set for it by the Government the Khan Committee was required to make recommendations for making the Deptt. of Telecommunications more connective, efficient and customer friendly through improved performance so as to effectively compete with the private sector. The recommendations of the Committee which are in keeping with its terms of reference are under consideration of the Government. In making recommendations for privatisation of the Deptt. of Telecom the Committee exceeded its brief and as such it is not proposed to consider any recommendations made by the Committee beyond its original terms of reference.

Movement of Private Vehicles in Metropolises

191. SHRI M.A. BABY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been undertakn by Government on the Regulations being enforced in some developed and developing countries to regulate the movement of private vehicles in metropolises during peak hours;

(b) whether Government are aware of the practice followed in some South Eastern States whereby private vehicles whose registration No. end with odd numbers and even numbers are allowed to ply only on the odd and even dates of the month; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to consider the matter to ply the increasing number of vehicles in the metropolises of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJA-SEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

डी.टी. सी की बसों के मरम्मत कार्य के लिए धनराशियों का आवंटन

192. **श्री अन्तन्तराम जायसवाल**: क्या जल भूतल परिवहन मंत्री बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने डी.टी.सी के विभित्र डिपुओं में खड़ी बसों को फिर से सड़कों पर चलाने के लिए दिल्ली परिवहन निगम को कोई धनराशि प्रदान की है;

(ख) यदि हां,, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या हैं जिसके लिए यह धनराशि प्रदान की गई थी;

(ग) क्या उस पूरी राशि का उपयोग कर लिया गया था, यदि हां तो उस धनराशि से ठीक कराई गई कितनी बसों को सड़कों पर चलाया गया, और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो क्या सरकार ने इस मामले की जांच कराके कोई कार्यवाही की है; यदि हां तो, तत्संबधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं?

जल भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम . राजशेखर मूर्ति): (क) से (ग) सरकार ने जुलाई ,1995 में दि.पि. नि. की बसों की मरम्मत के लिए 10 करोड़ रूपये दिए थे । यह राशि बसों की मरम्मत हेतु उपयोग की गई थी तथा 1000बसों की मरम्मत करके प्रचालन योग्य बनाया गया था ।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Telephone Connection to the Panchayat Headquarters in Uttar Pradesh

193. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Panchayat headquarters in Uttar Pradesh at present linked with telephone facility with details of amount spent for this purpose during the last two years; and